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Press Contact

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KW Institute for Contemporary Art announces Winter and Spring program 2018.

KW Institute for Contemporary Art is thrilled to announce its winter and spring program of 2018, which turns its attention towards the body and its relationships to politics, technology, and architecture. After the presentation of the installation *Super-8 Trilogy* by Ericka Beckman, KW continues its program with two comprehensive solo exhibitions by **Judith Hopf** and **Trix & Robert Haussmann** as well as the inauguration of *K*, (K-Komma) by **P. Krishnamurthy**, within the residency format *A Year with ...* and this year's point of departure for a series of projects on location throughout Berlin in the summer, while the 10th Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art is taking over the premises of KW (9.6. – 9.9.2018).

Judith Hopf

Stepping Stairs

February 10–April 15, 2018

Press preview: February 9, 2018, 11 am

Since the 1990s, the Berlin-based artist **Judith Hopf** (born 1969 in Karlsruhe, DE) has mastered an independent artistic language that unswervingly manages to stake out new ground, be it in the form of sculpture, film, drawing, performance or stage design. Her iconic works are deeply rooted in the use of everyday materials, like brick, concrete, glass, packaging, and easily graspable manufacturing processes, employing them to investigate the social dynamics of our built environment and their influence on behavior, power dynamics, and social codes.

For her exhibition *Stepping Stairs* at KW, Hopf continues her engagement with the material bricks. The stone-masoned brick works occupy a curious intermediary position that fluctuates between sculpture and (exhibition-)architecture, both dividing and augmenting the exhibition space. The brick works will be presented alongside older works, including a reworked constellation of her laptop sculptures. Abstract figures in different everyday poses appear to be seamlessly merged with the laptops they balance on their waists and knees. Shaped by what appears to be an over-use of technology, the sculptures assume a hybrid form situated somewhere between laptop and human being.

Alongside the sculptural works, the exhibition at KW will include a new short film as well as an ambitious commission for the facade in KW's courtyard. In these commissioned works, two historic artists have served as sources of inspiration: the American architect and architectural theorist **John Hejduk** (1929–2000), and the German artist, and former colleague of Hopf,

Annette Wehrmann (1961–2010). Wehrmann's installation of *Serpentine Streamer* will be on view alongside an audio recording of her reading of the texts on the third floor at KW from February 10 until March 11, 2018.

A comprehensive reader will be published with Verlag Walther König, featuring contributions by Hopf as well as by central companions of her work. The exhibition is curated by **Anna Gritz**.

Trix & Robert Haussmann

The Log-O-Rithmic Slide Rule: A Retrospective

February 10–April 29, 2018

Press preview: February 9, 2018, 11 am

The architect and designer duo **Trix** (born 1933 in Chur, CH) & **Robert Haussmann** (born 1931 in Zurich, CH) may be counted among the most important Swiss architects of the twentieth century. They have realized about 650 projects in their lifetime including the legendary *Da Capo Bar*, *Shopville* in Zurich's main railway station, the boutique *Weinberg*, the famous bar *Kronenhallen* and numerous successful experiments in artistic and handcrafted furniture. Since founding their 'Allgemeine Entwurfsanstalt' (General Design Institute) in 1967, Trix & Robert Haussmann have been pioneers in breaking with the premises of modern, canonical orders and concepts, reinterpreting playfully the linguistic dogmas of architecture theories.

Evading the dictum 'form follows function', their designs pursue a 'manierismo critico' (a 'critical Mannerism'), permitting them to merge the old and the new, to generate dissent and work with ambiguity, contradiction, and chance. The dedicated and thoughtful challenging of aesthetic conventions of Trix & Robert Haussmann was ahead of its time and is providing a very important contribution to the contemporary discourses on art and architecture.

Trix & Robert Haussmann will occupy the first and second floor of KW. This show will be the first significant survey of their work in Europe and showcases highlights of their personal archive, the main works of the collection at the Museum für Gestaltung in Zurich, works of the estate by Peter Röhliberger and actual compartments of interior design. The exhibition is curated by **Fredi Fischli** and **Niels Olsen** and is accompanied by interventions by **Inside Outside / Petra Blaisse**, **Liam Gillick**, and **Karl Holmqvist**. The exhibition will travel to Nottingham Contemporary later this year.

K, A Year with P. Krishnamurthy

February 4–December 16, 2018

Venue *K*: Ebersstraße 3, 10827 Berlin-Schöneberg

Opening: February 3, 2018, 4–7 pm

In February, KW inaugurates *K*,—a "workshop for exhibition-making" founded by designer, curator, writer, and educator **P. Krishnamurthy** in Berlin-Schöneberg. Established as part of the residency format *A Year with ...*, *K*, proposes a space for production, presentation, and pedagogy. This initiative extends and rethinks his previous project, *P!*, an exhibition space, gallery, and "Mom-and-Pop-Kunsthalle" located in New York from 2012–17. Framed by the work of the East German graphic designer **Klaus Wittkugel** (1910–85), *K*, will invite local and international artists, designers, and curators to actively consider the exhibition form anew through installations, talks, and pedagogical interventions. The presentation *Klaus Wittkugel, Widerspiegelung, Konstruktion* [Klaus Wittkugel, *Reflection, Construction*] includes original photographs from the 1930s, alongside posters, book covers, and printed ephemera from the 1950s and 60s. A contemporary slide show of Wittkugel's exhibition design and architectural graphics complements these materials. This rotating selection seeks to make his work accessible for interested audiences and researchers.

The public program starts with a conversation between noted design historian and professor **Jeremy 'Kai' Aynsley** and P. Krishnamurthy around the ideological tensions and resonances between East and West German design of the postwar period. The event takes place on February 3, 2018 at 4 pm prior to the opening of K,.

The exhibition *Stepping Stairs* by Judith Hopf is kindly supported by Hauptstadtkulturfonds (Capital Cultural Fund) and Stiftung Kunstfonds. The permanent commission is supported and donated by OUTSET Germany_Switzerland. The exhibition *The Log-O-Rithmic Slide Rule: A Retrospective* by Trix & Robert Haussmann is supported by Pro Helvetia, Herald St, London, and Stiftung Kunstsammlung Teo Jakob. The presentation of Klaus Wittkugel is made possible with the support of Akademie der Künste, Berlin, Art Collection; Steffen Tschesno, Berlin.

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Opening Hours

Wednesday–Monday 11 am–7 pm
Thursday 11 am–9 pm
Closed on Tuesday

Admission

8 €, reduced 6 €
Admission free on Thursday evening from 6–9 pm
Combined Dayticket KW Institute for Contemporary Art / me Collectors Room Berlin
10 €, reduced 8 €

Free Guided Tours

KW offers free guided tours through the exhibitions during regular opening hours.
For further information on tours for large groups (over 10 people) please contact Katja Zeidler at press@kw-berlin.de.

Titles and exhibition dates are subject to change.